



**The McKees Rocks Bridge** is a complex string of structures stretching nearly 1.5 miles across the wide, flat valley of the Ohio River. The focal point of the group is the 750-foot two-hinged trussed arch river span. But the river span makes up only 1/10 of the length of this group which is practically a pattern book of bridge types. It includes, from east to west: a 77-foot deck girder, three cantilever spandrel-braced deck arches (334 ft, 324 ft, 338 ft), 750-foot river span, another cantilever spandrel-braced deck arch (340 ft) and its counterbalancing deck truss span (194 ft), eight Warren deck trusses (each about 163 ft), an elevated concrete section of 1,145 ft which includes a pedestrian underpass at Olivia St, a trio of two-lane vehicle underpasses at Helen St, Munson Av and Chambers St, a pair of crescent trussed arches (300 ft each) crossing the rail yards, a single lane underpass at Harriet St, finally touching down in a ramp which meets Island Av in McKees Rocks.

The majority of the McKees Rocks Bridge group rises above dry land -- McKees Rocks "Bottoms." The main street through the Bottoms is Helen St. Once passing northward under the concrete opening in the wall that is this part of the Bridge, George St angles to the left -- leading to Presston. Circa 1900, Pressed-Steel Car Company constructed about 100 frame double homes for its company town.



FOUNDED: 1769 POPULATION: 6,622 LAND SIZE: 1.02 square mile

**Urban Hike**



**McKees Rocks**

**21 august 2004**

